

**UGEA 2160 – Mainstream Chinese Philosophy
Summer 2021**

The language of instruction and all course materials is English

Time: Mon / Thur 3:30-6:15pm

Location: online

Course Overview

This course introduces you to the philosophical thought of pre-modern China. Specifically, we will discuss the schools of Confucianism, Daoism, Mohism, Legalism, Buddhism, and Neo-Confucianism. By surveying the key arguments of these schools, the goal of this course is to pique your interest in Chinese philosophy and to encourage you to attend specialized, major courses in the future

Learning Outcomes

1. Become familiar with philosophical arguments of early Chinese philosophers.
2. Broaden your historical understanding of Chinese philosophy.
3. Appreciate the role Chinese philosophy still plays in modern society.

Topics

See lecture schedule below

Learning Activities

1. Read and give thought to the assigned readings.
2. Develop the skills mentioned above in the Learning Outcomes.
3. Attend lectures and engage your fellow classmates in discussion on the material presented.

Assessment Scheme

Task	Description	Mode of Teaching	Weight
Attendance / Participation	-	online	10%
Reading Summary	150-word summary 3 in total, 10 points each	online	30%
Exam	3 hours	tbd	60%

Reading Summary:

You are asked to write a short summary (150 words) of three assigned readings. You should not copy-and-paste the content of the text but summarize its key points in your own words. Each summary is to be emailed to me on the days given in the lecture schedule below. The **subject of your email** and **the name of your document** must be: “Your Full Name-UGEA2160-SumX” (where X is the summary number). Each summary is worth 10 points, for a total of 30 points of your final grade. Summaries will not be returned.

Exam:

We will have a three-hour exam covering the entire course (all lectures and readings) and you will be asked to write three short essays of approximately 750 words each (you will have a choice of questions and I will provide example questions ahead of time). The exam will be held during the official examination period. Complete instructions will be issued in our final lecture. Each answer will be worth 20 points, for a total of 60 points of your final grade. Exams will not be returned.

Grade Descriptor

Please refer to: http://phil.arts.cuhk.edu.hk/~phidept/UG/Grade_descriptors.pdf

Course Schedule

Lecture	Topic	Readings	Work Due
1 (May 17)	Introduction	Feng vol.1, ch.1	
2 (May 20)	Beginnings	Feng vol.1, ch.3	
3 (May 24)	Confucianism: Confucius	Feng vol.1, ch.4	
4 (May 27)	Mohism: Mozi	Feng vol.1, ch.5	
5 (May 31)	Confucianism: Mencius	Feng vol.1, ch.6	Summary 1
6 (June 3)	Daoism: Laozi	Feng vol.1, ch.8	
7 (June 7)	Daoism: Zhuangzi	Feng vol.1, ch.10	
8 (June 10)	Confucianism: Xunzi	Feng vol.1, ch.12	
(June 14)	Holiday (no class)		
9 (June 17)	Legalism: Hanfeizi	Feng vol.1, ch.13	Summary 2
10 (June 21)	Buddhism: Huayan	Feng vol.2, ch.8	
11 (June 24)	Buddhism: Chan	Feng vol.2, ch.9	
12 (June 28)	Neo-Confucianism: Zhu Xi	Feng vol.2, ch.13	
(July 1)	Holiday (no class)		
13 (July 5)	Neo-Confucianism: Wang Fuzhi	Liu, ch.7	Summary 3

Readings:

The texts for this course will be posted on Blackboard. You are responsible for downloading and reading them before lecture. The course schedule above shows which texts apply for each lecture.

[1]. Feng, Youlan. 1952-1953. *A History of Chinese Philosophy*. Translated by Derk Bodde.

[2]. Liu, Jeeliu. 2018. *Neo-Confucianism: Metaphysics, Mind and Morality*.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism:

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/>.

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are

aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration.

For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.

Contact Information

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Hours	Appointment by email